

Fig. 5c illustrates an example wherein the lookup component 183 retrieves one of a plurality of lookup objects that correspond to selected user parameters. Thus, for each user parameter a lookup object is available that stores resource identifiers in association with resource data. Since the steps for setting a user parameter (step 21), executing an application (step 22), reading a resource identifier (step 23), and loading a lookup object (step 24) are similar to the steps described with reference to Fig. 4, description starts at an entry point S24, that is, after step 24 described with reference to Fig. 4.

In a step S3c1, the lookup component 183 executes the lookup operation based on a resource identifier in a lookup object, wherein the lookup object links the resource identifier with a plurality of user parameters and each of the plurality of user parameters with resource data dependent on the respective user parameter. The lookup component 183 can first locate the resource identifier in the lookup object and the selected user parameter, and thereby retrieve the resource data corresponding to the resource identifier and the selected user parameter.

Similar to the examples described with reference to Figs. 5a and 5b, when a resource identifier `res_ID_IP` and user parameters "49" and "01" for the environments "Germany" and "United States" are provided, the lookup object may contain information as shown in Table 5.

res_ID_IP	49	"Gewerblicher Rechtsschutz"
	01	"Intellectual Property"

Table 5

The lookup object may contain a plurality of resource identifiers or resource functions as described with reference to Fig. 5a and 5b.

Referring to Fig. 6, that figure shows a block diagram of a data processing system 600 suitable for practicing methods and implementing systems consistent with the present invention. The data processing system 600 is configured in a manner similar to data processing system 100. Note, however, that (as explained

in more detail below) the data processing system 600 comprises a client 40 communicating with the resource program 180. Even though only one client is shown, a plurality of clients at different locations (e.g., different countries or regions) may be provided.

The client 40 may be a data processing device operated by a user and may communicate with the resource program 180 via a communication network or dedicated communication link, including wireless transmissions, as indicated by arrows 401 and 402. The client 40 may control an application executed at the resource program by transmitting instructions or requests to the resource program as indicated by arrow 401. For example, the client 40 may request a particular web page.

Further, the client 40 may transmit a selected user parameter to the resource program, for example, upon request by the resource program, or may transmit the user parameter in association with a URL (Uniform Resource Locator) transmitted in a request to the resource program. Thus, the client 40 may comprise components for selecting the user parameter at the client (e.g., by user input), and for transmitting the user parameter to the data processing device 600.

The resource program may store the user parameter transmitted from the client in an object such that the user parameter is readily available in case an application independent of the user parameter is executed by the resource program and "localized" resource data need to be presented to the user.

The resource program may maintain a plurality of user parameters in the object, preferably in association with client identifiers, in order to be able to serve a large number of clients.

The resource program, upon retrieving resource data may transmit the resource data to the client 40 as indicated by an arrow 402.

Apart from the above-described features, the data processing system 600 shown in Fig. 6 is similar to the data processing system 100 shown in Fig. 1.

All communications in the illustrative data processing system 600 may be executed via communication networks, via dedicated communication links, including wireless transmission, or other methods or systems.

Referring to Fig. 7a, that figure illustrates a flow chart of a process performed by the resource program in accordance with another embodiment consistent with methods, systems, and articles of manufacture consistent with the present invention. The sequence of steps depicted in Fig. 7a may be executed by the data processing system 600 shown in Fig. 6, however, Fig. 7a is not limited thereto. Fig. 7a particularly outlines steps for presenting "localized" resource data to a user in accordance with a selected user environment. The following description of the process of Fig. 7a illustratively refers to the data processing system 600 of Fig. 6.

In step S5a1, the user parameter component 181 receives a user parameter, for example, from a session object or application object, for setting a user environment from the client 40.

In step S5a2, the application program 182 executes an application that is controlled by the client 40. Further, the application program 182 reads a resource identifier independent of the user parameter in connection with the application.

In step S5a3, the lookup component 183 retrieves resource data based on the resource identifier from the lookup table 188 in a manner similar to the above-described embodiments.

In step S5a4, the lookup component 183 determines whether the retrieved resource data correspond to a resource function. If the lookup component 183 determines that the resource data corresponds to the resource function in step S5a4, then the lookup component 183 executes the resource function in dependence on the resource identifier (step S5a5). The resource function defines, for example, a format conversion of date, time, currency, or floating point number, as described above. Then the lookup component 183 transmits the resource data directly to the client (step S5a6).

If the lookup component 183 determines that the resource data does not correspond to the resource function in step S5a4, then the lookup component 183 bypasses step S5a5 and transmits the resource data directly to the client (step S5a6).

The process illustrated in Fig. 7a provides a user with, for example, localized text information in a language that corresponds to the user parameter or